



# REACHING HIGHER

## Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 20

### Mission

VX-20 traces its roots back to the founding of NAS Patuxent River. Recognizing the need to consolidate flight test efforts, the Navy established NAS Patuxent River on April 1, 1943, in a location selected for its proximity to the coast, limited air traffic congestion and isolation. On June 16, 1945, Naval Air Test Center (NATC) – including its Flight Test Division, Weapon Systems Test Division, Service Test Division and the United States Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) – was designated as the center for Navy flight test. In April 1975, NATC was reorganized into directorates: Antisubmarine Aircraft Test, Strike Aircraft Test, Rotary Wing Aircraft Test, Systems Engineering Test and USNTPS. The Antisubmarine Aircraft Test Directorate was renamed Force Warfare Aircraft Test Directorate in June 1986. In May 1995, the organization officially became a squadron and was renamed Naval Force Aircraft Test Squadron. The squadron was designated VX-20 in May of 2002.

Throughout its history, VX-20 has supported the fleet through the full spectrum test and evaluation of scouting (VS), patrol (VP), carrier airborne early warning (VAW), fleet logistics support (VRC), electronic countermeasures (VQ), fleet tactical support (VR), patrol special unit (VUP), Marine aerial refueler transport (VMGR) and training (VT) community aircraft. VX-20 also provides aerial refueling for the F-35 Lightning II, MV-22 Osprey and F/A-18E-F Super Hornet aircraft and safety/chase support aircraft for other platforms assigned to Naval Test Wing Atlantic.

### Aircraft

- E-2C/D Advanced Hawkeye
- P-8A Poseidon
- MQ-4C Triton
- KC-130T/J Hercules
- E-6B Mercury
- C-38 Courier
- UC-12B Huron
- T-6A/B Texan II
- EP-3E Aries
- P-3C Orion
- RQ-4 Global Hawk
- HC-27J Spartan

### Vital Statistics

- Operate 27 aircraft in 12 type/model/series
- Executed over 140 test and evaluation projects totaling over 1,000 test sorties and nearly 3,000 test hours
- 112 military personnel (Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard), 35 military and 41 contract aviators, 40 government personnel, over 240 contract maintenance personnel, and over 500 flight test engineers
- Flew more than 2,120 sorties totaling over 5,400 hours

"FORCE"



# VX-20

## Recent Accomplishments

- Completed testing of Advanced Arresting Gear (AAG) system configurations for E-2C/D and C-2A at Lakehurst, New Jersey, which was crucial for allowing the aircraft to conduct flight test operations from Ford-class aircraft carriers.
- Collected critical data during E-2D aerial refueling testing with F/A-18E/F 5-wet tanker, attaining maximum temperature characterization of the aircraft's radar dome.
- Supported the fleet transition of the MQ-4C Triton to Unmanned Patrol Squadron 19 (VUP-19), providing necessary oversight during implementation.
- Completed P-8 aerial refueling testing with the USAF KC-46 tanker aircraft.



Naval Test Wing Atlantic provides developmental flight and ground testing for the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division, the Navy's largest warfare center.

